

## THE FIRST OFFENSIVE

On August 31st and September 1st the division engaged in an offensive in conjunction with the 14th British Division on the left and the 27th American Division on the right. The 30th Division captured all its objectives, including Lock No. 8 Lankhof Farm and the City of Voormezele, advancing fifteen hundred yards, capturing fifteen prisoners, two machine guns and thirty-five rifles. As a result of this advance the 236th Division, which was considered an average German division, was identified. During the six weeks previous to this advance many attempts had been made by the British and our own troops to identify this German division.

On September 4th-5th the division was withdrawn from the Canal Sector and placed in British G. H. Q. reserve with Division Headquarters at Roellecourt, France. While in this area the entire division was trained in attacking in conjunction with British tanks.

On September 17th the division was again moved farther south, with Division Headquarters at Herissart, and on September 22d was moved to the British Fourth Army, with Division Headquarters at Bois de Buire, near Tincourt, taking over a front line sector from the 1st Australian Division on the night of 23d-24th.

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PLATE I: MAP OF YPRES AND CANAL SECTORS, SHOWING WORK ACCOMPLISHED

This map on a 1 to 20,000 scale shows, in a general way, the work accomplished by the Old Hickory Division while in the Ypres and Canal Sectors. The area colored in green shows the territory captured by the Division in its first offensive action. The various systems of trenches, shown in colors and each with a distinctive name, extending across the Front to a depth of approximately eight miles, constitute only one large system. Behind these there were other defenses.

It particularly refers to the operations of the 105th Engineers, showing their locations while the Division was attached to the British for training and in support, and also after the Division took over the Canal Sector.

The work done by the engineers is described in Chapters VI and VII. A study of the map with the symbols used for designating trenches, wire, dugouts, machine gun emplacements, observation posts, etc., in connection with Chapters VI and VII will give a comprehensive idea of the results accomplished.